

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ATHENS 07880 031559Z

67

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SSC-01 /070 W

----- 117146

R 031449Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5841

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 7880

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP, GR

SUBJECT: GREEK AMBASSADORIAL CHANGES

1. FOR THE PAST SEVERAL WEEKS, WE HAVE HEARD VARIOUS REPORTS OF AN IMPENDING ROUND OF AMBASSADORIAL SHIFTS. WE HAVE HAD SOME OF THE SPECULATION CONFIRMED BY AN AUTHORITATIVE SOURCE IN THE MFA. THE PRESS HAS ALSO MENTIONED SOME OF THE EXPECTED CHANGES.

2. AMBASSADOR TO NATO BRYON THEODOROPOULOS IS SCHEDULED TO RETURN TO ATHENS TO BECOME SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE MFA, A POSITION BEING RECREATED AS A CONSEQUENCE OF RECENT LEGISLATION REORGANIZING THE MFA. THEODOROPOULOS IS TO BE REPLACED AT NATO BY EUSTACHE LEGAKOS, PRESENTLY DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS DIRECTORATE. IN PARIS, RETIRING ARISTIDES PILAVAKIS WILL BE REPLACED BY DIMITRIOS PAPAIOANNOU, CURRENTLY GREEK ENVOY TO MADRID. PAPAIOANNOU'S APPOINTMENT TO SUCH A COVETED POST WAS SOMEWHAT CONTROVERSIAL WITHIN
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ATHENS 07880 031559Z

MFA CIRCLES BECAUSE OF HIS RELATIVE LACK OF SENIORITY.

IN ANKARA, CONSTANTINE COSMADOPOULOS IS TO BE SUCCEEDED BY AMBASSADOR DEMITRICOPOULOS, THE CURRENT ENVOY IN MOSCOW. SLATED TO FOLLOW DIMITRICOPOULOS IN MOSCOW IS PIERRE CALOGERAS, CHIEF GREEK NEGOTIATOR FOR THE U.S.-GREEK DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT NEGOTIATIONS.

3. ALSO RUMORED, BUT UNCONFIRMED, ARE THE AMBASSADOR GEORGE GAVAS, NOW IN TUNIS, WILL REPLACE PAPAIOANNOU IN MADRID; GAVAS, INTURN, WILL BE SUCCEEDED BY DIONYSSIOS XENOS, PRESENTLY PERSONNEL DIRECTOR AT THE MFA. MFA OFFICIALS ANGHELOS CHORAFAS, DIRECTOR OF NATO AND CSCE AFFAIRS, AND MICHAEL COTTAKIS, DIRECTOR OF AFRICA, THE MIDDLE EAST, OCEANIA AND ASIAN AFFAIRS, ARE ALSO REPORTEDLY IN LINE FOR EMBASSIES IN LATIN AMERICA.

4. COMMENT: THIS ROUND OF AMBASSADORIAL MUSICAL CHAIRS IS NOT UNEXPECTED AND DOES NOT SIGNIFY MAJOR FOREIGN POLICY SHIFTS. THE QUESTION MARK IS HOW THE INTERNAL DIVISION OF LABOR WILL BE MADE WITHIN THE MFA BETWEEN THE RETURNING THEODOROPOULOS AND INCUMBENT DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS JOHN TZOUNIS WHO HAS ACTED IN ESSENCE AS THE NUMBER TWO SUBSTANTIVE OFFICIAL BEHIND FOREIGN MINISTER BITSIOS. SOME SPECULATE THAT TZOUNIS WILL OVERLAP BRIEFLY WITH THEODOROPOULOS UNTIL THE LATTER IS FIRMLY SETTLED IN, AND THEN MOVE ON AS GREEK AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON, THE PREMIER POST IN THE GREEK DIPLOMATIC SERVICE.
KUBISCH

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AMBASSADORS, PERSONNEL MOVEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ATHENS07880
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760299-0613
From: ATHENS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760894/aaaadelw.tel
Line Count: 91
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <24 AUG 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GREEK AMBASSADORIAL CHANGES
TAGS: PDIP, GR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006